

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NIAMEY 03105 051530Z

51

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 IGA-01 /008 W
----- 084665

O R 051503Z AUG 75
FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1419
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ACCRA

C O N F I D E N T I A L NIAMEY 3105

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

AF/W FOR BISHOP

ABIDJAN FOR AMBASSADOR HECK

ACCRA FOR AMBASSADOR HECK

E.O. 11652: GDS

SUBJECT: AFDROUGHT:NIGER FOOD REQUIREMENTS

1. YOU WILL NOTE THAT WE ENTERING RECLAMA TO INSTRUCTIONS
FROM AID/W IN PARA 2 OF STATE 183681 WHICH SEEM TO BE
BASED ON CONTINUING MISCONCEPTION THAT GON A) IS INSUFFICIENTLY
ATTENTIVE TO MALI'S NEEDS; B) IS PRIMARPLY RESPONSIBLE
FOR BAD PORT SITUATION IN COTONOU; AND C) THAT REQUEST FOR 1500
TONS CAN NOW RPT NOW BE USED TO EXERT PRESSURE ON GON TO
REMEDY COTONOU-PARAKOU BOTTLENECS ON ITS OWN. WHILE GON WILL
UNDOUBTEDLY CONTINUE TO BE FULLY COOPERATIVE AND WHILE WE
INTEND TO CONTINUE URGING IT TO EXPEDTIE MALI SHIPMENTS, IT
IS NAIVE AS IMPLIED IN PARA 3 STATE 183681 TO THINK THAT SITUATION

WILL BE SUDDENLY IMPROVED BY LEVYING REQUIREMENT THAT GON CAN
ONLY GET STOCKS AFTER 2196 TONS FOR MALI HAVE LEFT COTONOU.
MUCH OF OUR CREDIT FOR A POSITIVE RESPONSE TO PRESIDENT
KOUNTCHE'S DIRECT REQUEST TO THE AMBASSADOR FOR
EMERGENCY AID WILL BE LOST IF WE IMPOSE THIS UNREALISTIC
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CONDTION ON THE GON WHICH AT A MINIMUM WILL RESULT IN

LONG DELAYS IN ARRIVAL OF STOCKS HERE. HOPE THAT
A WAY CAN BE FOUND TO HAVE INSTRUCTIONS AMENDED SO THAT
IT DOES NOT APPEAR THAT WE ARE HOLDING GON TO RANSOM AND
SO THAT NIGER'S NEEDS CAN AT LEAST BE MET ON A BASIS THAT
DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST THE GON.DAVISON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, AFDROUGHT, FOOD ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NIAMEY03105
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750269-1203
From: NIAMEY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750881/aaaactwx.tel
Line Count: 66
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 AUG 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <09 DEC 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AFDROUGHT:NIGER FOOD REQUIREMENTS
TAGS: EAID, PFOR, US, NG
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006